European Union: Has Europe United?
Mini-DBQ

Hook Exercise: European Union

Directions:

Schools are made up of diverse, or different, types and groups of people. Still, as school needs to promote their school spirit. How do you unite different people into a common culture, while preserving their individuality? Discuss with your partner if the following items would unite the student body of a school or divide it. Be ready to discuss.

	Unite	**Divide**
1. School Uniforms		
2. School Sports		
3. Pep-Rallies		
4. School Rules		
5. Racial Make-up of School		
6. School clubs		

The European Union: Has Europe United?
Background Essay

By 1945 Europe had endured two World Wars that nearly tore the continent apart. Many wars had been fought in Europe throughout history however, after the Second World War many people wanted an end to the conflicts and to unite. How do many countries with different cultures unite?

In 1949 Western Europe created the Council of European Communities as a first step to unifying. Two years later, Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg signed an agreement to run their coal and steel industries under common management. This would help insure that none of these countries would produce weapons of war on their own and turn on other countries.

In 1957 these countries go even further and create the European Economic Community. This would allow goods and services to move freely across borders. The Council also enacts policies such as the common agricultural policy, as a way of creating a single market for agricultural products, and begins to reduce **tariffs** between countries. By the 1970s, the Council wanted to unify the money used by 1980. The euro was introduced in the early 2000s.

Not only was Europe trying to unify economically, but they were also trying to unify socially. The European Union (EU) has enacted policies that would promote a growth of European culture while still preserving the regional cultures. They also promote education and healthcare. Environmental policies have also been enacted that are aimed at protecting the environment while also promoting responsible use of natural resources.

The European Union has its own parliament whose members are elected by the people of the EU countries every five years. The role of the parliament is to debate and pass laws, makes sure all EU institutions work democratically, and debates and adopts the EU budget. The members that make up the parliament are grouped by political affiliation, and the number per country is determined by the population of that country.

Today, there are 27 countries that are part of the EU. Have the countries united politically, economically and socially? Examine the following documents to answer the question- The European Union: Has Europe United?
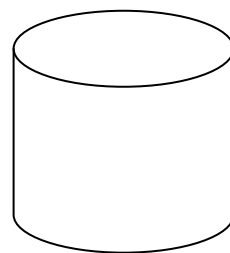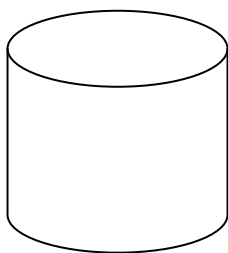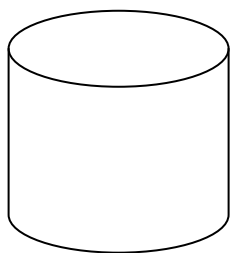
Background Essay Questions

1. Why would Europe have a desire to unite after WWII?

2. Who were the six original countries to unite?

3. Why would the EU feel it would be important to use common currency?

4. Explain the European Union Parliament.

5. If there are 44 countries in Europe, about what percent belong to the EU?

6. Explain the word *tariff.*

Understanding the Question and Pre-Bucketing

1. What is the analytical question asked?

2. What word or words in the question need explanation or rephrasing?

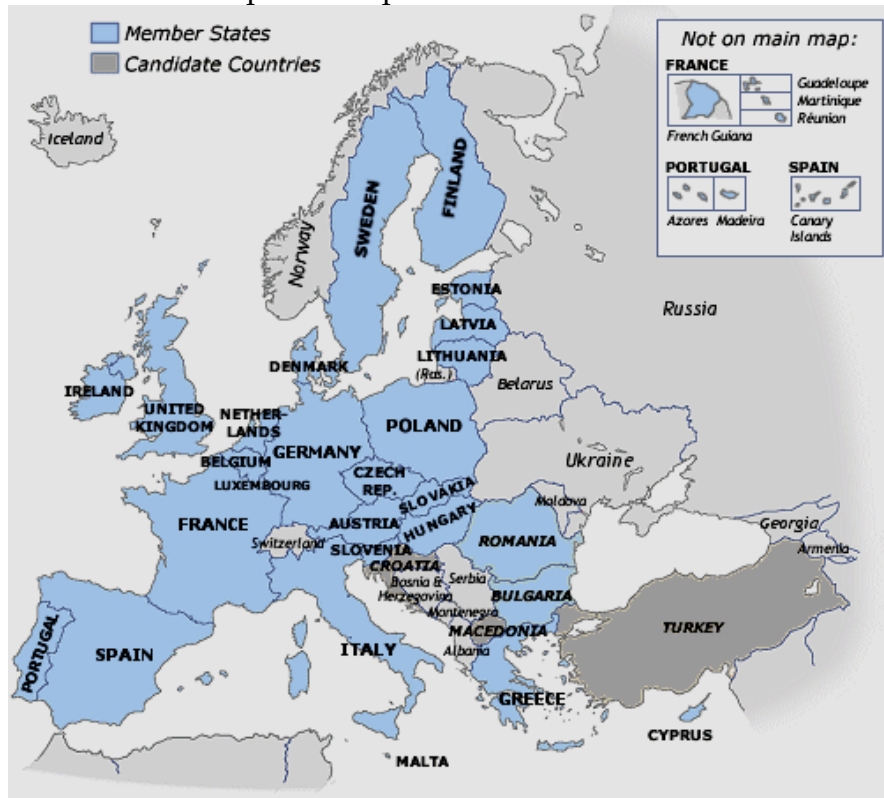3. Rewrite the question in your own words.

Pre- Bucketing

Directions: Have students examine the documents you have given them and infer names of categories in which students will organize their information. Students will then label their buckets/categories and then begin the process of gathering information from the documents.

Document A

Map of European Union Countries

Document Analysis:

1. In what part of Europe are the majority of EU countries located?

2. Why might it be important for EU countries to share borders?

3. Using facts and inferences drawn from the map, what are some reasons European countries might want to be part of the European Union?

4. Using facts and inferences drawn from the map, what are some reasons European countries might not want to be part of the European Union?

Document B

A new proposal in the European Commission would reduce red tape and wasted money, but it comes at a heavy price to European Union member states: further loss of national sovereignty.

The Commission has introduced a proposal that would force EU countries to end their national requirements on goods imported from other EU nations. The Commission's figures indicate that the current rules cost the EU about €150 billion a year in lost trade.

Current EU rules stipulate that a company can sell a product in any of the 27 member nations as long as it respects the regulations of that country. A nation can restrict an import from a fellow EU member state if it fails to meet its national regulations. The new legislation, however, introduced on February 14, requires that national authorities *justify* why a product sold in another EU country cannot be sold in theirs. The draft directive states that if a country refuses market access, it "has to set out in detail the precise reasons for its refusal."

The project also calls for member nations to create one single agency that would check whether goods comply with EU rules, to replace the 1,800 agencies that currently do so.

The creeping centralization of power in the EU will have a profound effect on member nations. Trade and business are one of the chief cornerstones of any nation or empire. Whatever institution governs the trade of a nation or group of nations—whether monarchy, dictator or parliament— essentially rules that nation. Hence, these proposals are one more step in the ongoing creation of a European empire.

Document Analysis

1. What was the Commission introducing?

2. Why would EU countries be angered by this proposal?

3. What effect does the author believe this will have on member nations?

4. Is there anything about this document that encourages unity throughout Europe?

5. Is there anything about this document that does not encourage unity throughout Europe?

Document C

Source: Conversations by Moonlight- *The Chains of Europe*

Document Analysis

1. List some of the important parts or elements of this cartoon and what they represent.

2. What do you think is happening in this cartoon?

3. What is the *domino theory,* and how does that relate to Europe and the EU?

Document D

Rome- Since the global financial crisis, the **European Union** has been deeply divided over economic policy… But today few issues are proving more divisive within the bloc than **immigration**.

That much was clear this week, when the fractious 27-member European Union rejected **Italy**'s idea to make it easier for immigrants who first land in Italy to travel elsewhere in Europe. At a time when a wave of immigrants fleeing the unrest in North Africa shows no signs of abating, the rejection raised the possibility of tightened intra-European border controls for the first time since visa-free travel was introduced in the 1990s…

Italy had asked fellow European Union member states to recognize the permits as valid for entry — essentially condoning the migrants' passage to France and beyond. At a meeting of European Union interior ministers in Luxembourg on Monday, other member states, chief among them France and Germany, said no… In response, Italy's interior minister, Roberto Maroni, asked, "I wonder if it makes sense to stay in the European Union?"…

Individual European countries have their own policies for handling immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers. Under European law, the country where migrants first arrive is responsible for determining their status, a norm that Italy and Malta have asked to be waived. (So far, they have been rebuffed.)

….not only did France reject Italy's temporary visa idea, but its interior minister said Paris would use "all legal means at our disposal" to increase patrols on the French-Italian border. In recent weeks, France has turned back more than 1,000 North Africans trying to cross the border…

Document Analysis

1. Why are so many immigrants coming from North Africa?

2. Why would Italy want to make travel for these immigrants easy?

3. What country or countries is responsible for determining the status of immigrants?

4. Why would France and Germany reject Italy's proposal for immigration?

Document E

Note: This quote was from a speech the British Prime Minister at a conference in which world leaders attended in Munich, Germany.

> "Under the doctrine of state multiculturalism, we have encouraged different cultures to live separate lives, apart from each other and the mainstream. We have failed to provide a vision of society to which they feel they want to belong."
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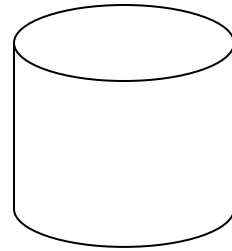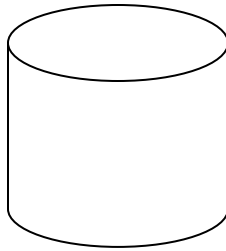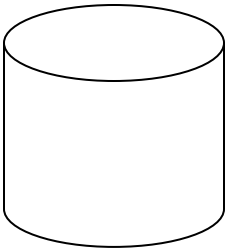> ~ David Cameron, British Prime Minister

Document Analysis

1. What does the word *doctrine* mean?

2. What does the word *multiculturalism* mean?

3. What does Mr. Cameron mean when he says: "we have encouraged different cultures to live separate lives, apart from each other and the mainstream."?

4. Why would it be important for a country to "provide a vision of society to which they feel they want to belong"?

5. How does this document help you answer the question: "Has Europe United?". Explain.
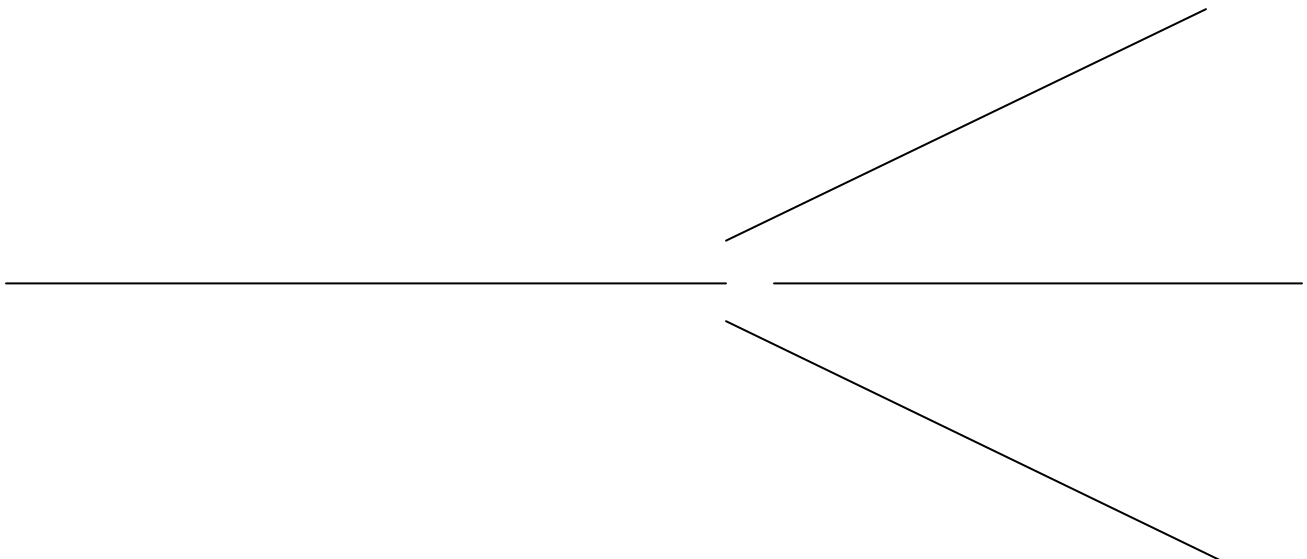
Bucketing – Getting Ready to Write

Bucketing

Look over all the documents and organize them into your final buckets. Write labels under each bucket and place the letters of the documents in the buckets where they belong. It is O.K. to put a document in more than one bucket. That is called multi-bucketing, but you need a good reason for doing so.

Thesis Development and Road Map

On the chicken foot below, write your thesis and your road map. Your thesis is always an opinion and answers the main question. The road map is created from your bucket labels and lists the topic areas you will examine in order to prove your thesis.

Essay Outline Guide

Working Title

Paragraph #1
Grabber

Background

Stating the question with key terms defined

Thesis and road map

Paragraph #2
Baby Thesis for bucket one

Evidence: Supporting details from documents with document citation

Argument: connecting evidence to the thesis

Paragraph #3
Baby Thesis for bucket two

Evidence:

Argument:

Paragraph #4
Baby Thesis for bucket three

Evidence:

Argument:

Paragraph #5
Conclusion: Restatement of main idea along with possible insight.